

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

April 3, 2006

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced the unsealing of a four-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury sitting in Madison, charging Shaun Collins, DOB 3/10/61, of La Crosse, Wisconsin, with two counts of distribution of methamphetamine, one count of possession of materials, chemicals, and equipment to manufacture methamphetamine, and one count of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. If convicted, Collins faces a maximum penalties of 20 years in prison, a \$1,000,000 fine, and at least three years of supervised release on each of the charges related to the distribution of methamphetamine. Collins faces a maximum penalties of 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, and three years of supervised release on the charge related to the manufacture of methamphetamine, and at least five years in prison with a maximum of 40 years in prison, a \$2,000,000 fine, and at least four years of supervised release on the charge alleging that he conspired to distribute methamphetamine.

The charges against Collins are the result of an investigation conducted by the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department, the La Crosse Police Department, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation - Narcotics Bureau, and the

Vernon County Sheriff's Department. Prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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